

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 22295 021128Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3518

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

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AMEMBASSY BONN

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USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 22295

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, HU, FR

SUBJECT: CSCE: HUNGARIAN PROPOSALS TO FRANCE

REF: PARIS 18885

1. QUAI'S CSCE COORDINATOR BEAUCHATAUD HAS, IN CONFIDENCE, GIVEN US TEXT OF HUNGARIAN PAPER WHICH PRIME MINISTER LAZAR APPARENTLY LEFT WITH FRENCH AT END OF HIS JUNE VISIT TO FRANCE. PAPER HAS NOT YET BEEN SHOWN IN FULL TEXT TO EC-NINE. WE ARE POUCHING COPIES TO DEPARTMENT FOR RPM-MARESCA AND EE, AND TO BUDAPEST.

2. TEXT CONTAINS PREDICTABLE STANDARD CSCE REFERENCES: I.E., HUNGARIAN REQUEST THAT, IN COMPLIANCE PRINCIPLE X OF FINAL ACT, FRENCH DROP ALL REMAINING QUANTITATIVE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 PARIS 22295 021128Z

RESTRICTIONS IN CONFORMITY WITH ITS GATT OBLIGATIONS;

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVED BILATERAL ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION, JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE AND IMPROVEMENT OF WORKING CONDITIONS FOR JOURNALISTS; AND A CALL FOR THE EARLY CONVOCATION OF BREZHNEV'S "THREE CONFERENCES."

3. POINT WE WISH TO UNDERLINE IS RELATIVE EMPHASIS IN THIS PAPER

(A) ON SPEEDING UP AND SIMPLIFYING BILATERAL VISA AND PASSPORT ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN HUNGARY AND FRANCE; AND

(B) ON LINKING THE IMPORT AND/OR TRANSLATION OF FRENCH PAPERS, MAGAZINES, BOOKS, ETC., BY HUNGARY TO FRENCH IMPORTS AND OR TRANSLATIONS OF HUNGARIAN OUTPUT.

4. BEAUCHATAUD NOTES THAT SIMILAR PATTERNS ARE EMERGING IN EMPHASIS OF OTHER EE COUNTRIES, I.E., CZECH AMBASSADOR'S RECENT DETAILED STATISTICAL ENUMERATION HERE OF THE EXTENT TO WHICH FRANCE DOES NOT RECIPROCATE CZECH EFFORTS IN TRANSLATING OR OTHERWISE CIRCULATING OR DISTRIBUTING FRENCH FILMS, BOOKS, PERIODICALS, ETC. AS FOR VISA ISSUE, SOVIETS HAVE ALSO BEEN PRESSING FRENCH IN RECENT MONTHS FOR SIMILAR SPEED-UP AND SIMPLIFICATION OF CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF OFFICIAL VISAS.

5. BEAUCHATAUD CONCLUDES, AND WE AGREE, THAT VISA ISSUE IS, SIMULTANEOUSLY, A PROMISING SUBJECT FOR CSCE DISCUSSION, BUT ALSO A GOOD LINE FOR HUNGARIAN COUNTER-ATTACK ON BASKET III AT BELGRADE IF FRENCH, FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER, FIND THAT THEY CANNOT SEE THEIR WAY CLEAR TO MEET HUNGARIAN DEMANDS. EMPHASIS ON STATISTICAL APPROACH TO TRADE AND TRANSLATIONS OF MEDIA OUTPUT AND LITERATURE IS EVEN MORE ADVANTAGEOUS FOR HUNGARIANS; SINCE FRENCH CANNOT "CONTROL" LEVELS OF THESE IMPORTS, WHICH WILL IN ANY CASE REMAIN LOW BECAUSE OF LIMITED KNOWLEDGE OF, AND INTEREST IN HUNGARIAN MATERIALS IN FRANCE. THIS BEING CASE, HUNGARIANS AND OTHERS IN BLOC ARE OBVIOUSLY PREPARING OPTICAL DEFENSE FOR BELGRADE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PARIS 22295 021128Z

AGAINST WESTERN CHARGES OF CONTINUING COMMUNIST RESTRICTIONS ON FREE CIRCULATION OF IDEAS ON GROUNDS THAT WEST (IN THIS CASE FRENCH) ARE DOING EVEN WORSE.

6. BEAUCHATAUD SAYS QUAI IS STILL "STUDYING" HUNGARIAN PAPER.
GAMMON

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